



# CONCERT CHORUS 8/VOCAL ENSEMBLE 8 GRADES 6-8

Counselors are available to assist parents and students with course selections and career planning. Parents may arrange to meet with the counselor by calling the school's guidance department.

# **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Emphasis is placed on high standards of performance and the development of conceptual understanding. Students become acquainted with the great heritage of choral literature and are given the opportunity to develop a high standard of general musicianship. Performances are an important part of group activities. After-school rehearsals and public performances may be required of students. This course is a semester in length. Students may sign up for chorus again for the second semester.

# **PREREQUISITE**

Membership is based on ability, interest, and experience. The director's approval is required.

## **OPTIONS FOR NEXT COURSE**

Concert Choir

# REQUIRED STUDENT TEXTBOOK

None

# THE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ATTITUDES THAT COMPRISE THE CONCERT CHORAL 8/VOCAL ENSEMBLE 8 COURSES ARE SUMMARIZED AS FOLLOWS FROM THE PRESCRIBED CURRICULUM:

#### TOPICS OF STUDY

#### LEVEL D

#### **THEORY**

- 4.1 Demonstrate an awareness of rhythmic and metric values (SOL CB.9, CI.9)
  - Count, perform, and write eighth note and quarter note triplets and corresponding rests (SOL – CB.9, CI.9)
  - Write a four measure phrase using meters previously learned (SOL CB.9, CI.9)
- 4.2 Demonstrate a knowledge of music notation (SOL CAD.8)
  - Label pitches on the treble staff from a to a?? (SOL – CAD.8)
  - Label the pitches of the bass staff from G to e? (SOL CAD.8)
  - Identify melodic and harmonic intervals of unison, octave, second, and third (SOL – CAD.8)
  - Utilize available technology (SOL CI.9)
- 4.3 Demonstrate a basic knowledge of the diatonic scale (SOL CAD.8)
  - Demonstrate the ability to recognize a scale passage
- 4.4 Demonstrate a knowledge of basic form (SOL CB.10, CI.10)
  - Identify, define, and perform ternary form (ABA) (SOL CB.10, CI.10)
- 4.5 Demonstrate knowledge of tempo (SOL CB.4, CI.4, CAR.4, CAD.4)
  - Define allegro, moderato, lento (SOL CB.4, CI.4, CAD.4, CAR.4)

# SIGHT-SINGING/EAR-TRAINING

- 4.6 Demonstrate an awareness of the correlation of the written notation to the sounded pitch
  - Sight-read stepwise examples in treble clef (SOL CAD.8)
- 4.7 Demonstrate an awareness of the correlation of the written notation to the sounded rhythm (SOL CB.9)
  - Sight-sing on a stationary pitch rhythmic patterns using whole, half, quarter, and dotted half notes and rests (SOL – CAD.8)
- 4.8 Demonstrate an aural awareness of rhythmic movement (SOL CAD.6, CAD.8)
  - Identify rhythmic patterns as duple or triple meter

#### VOCAL PRODUCTION

- 4.9 Demonstrate an awareness of proper posture (SOL CB.1, CI.1, CAD.1, CAR.1)
  - Demonstrate proper sitting and standing positions (SOL – CB.1, CI.1, CAD.1, CAR.1)
  - Demonstrate the ability to hold the music correctly while singing (SOL – CB.1, CI.1, CAD.1, CAR.1)
  - Demonstrate an awareness of proper body alignment in both sitting and standing positions (SOL – CB.1, CI.1, CAD.1, CAR.1)
- 4.10 Demonstrate the ability to use appropriate diction (SOL CB.3, CI.3, CAD.3, CAR.3, CAD.1,CAR.1)
  - Demonstrate appropriate use of consonants (SOL – CB.3, CI.3, CAD.3, CAR.3, CAD.1,CAR.1)
  - Demonstrate appropriate vowel formation and pronunciation (SOL – CB.3, CI.3, CAD.3, CAR.3, CAD.1,CAR.1)
  - Demonstrate appropriate pronunciation of diphthongs (SOL – CB.3, CI.3, CAD.3, CAR.3, CAD.1,CAR.1)
  - Demonstrate the ability to use voiced and un-voiced consonants appropriate to the music (SOL – CB.3, CI.3, CAD.3, CAR.3, CAD.1.CAR.1)
  - Demonstrate correct pronunciation appropriate to the music (SOL – CB.3, CI.3, CAD.3, CAR.3, CAD.1, CAR.1)
- 4.11 Demonstrate proper breathing technique (SOL CB.1, CI.1, CAD.1, CAR.1)
  - Demonstrate an awareness of the proper usage of the total breathing apparatus (SOL CB.1, CI.1, CAD.1, CAR.1)
  - Identify the mouth, nose, throat, larynx, lungs, rib cage, and diaphragm (SOL – CB.1, CI.1, CAD.1, CAR.1)
  - Define and perform staggered breathing (SOL CB.1, CI.1, CAD.1, CAR.1)
  - Demonstrate the ability to use phrasing as indicated by the director (SOL – CI.6, CAD.4, CAR.4)
- 4.12 Demonstrate an awareness of tonal placement (SOL CAD.1, CAR.1, CB.2, CI.2, CAD.2)

- Demonstrate the ability to use head tones and chest tones (SOL – CAD.1, CAR.1, CB.2, CI.2, CAD.2)
- Demonstrate correct intonation (SOL CAD.1, CAR.1, CB.2, CI.2, CAD.2, CAR.2)
- Identify falsetto (SOL CAD.1, CAR.1, CB.2, CI.2, CAD.2)
- Demonstrate an awareness of resonators and larynx (SOL – CAD.1, CAR.1, CB.2, CI.2)

## REHEARSAL SKILLS

- 4.13 Demonstrate appropriate rehearsal skills
  - Bring appropriate materials to rehearsal
  - Demonstrate the proper use and care of classroom materials
  - Demonstrate appropriate behavior
  - Attend regularly scheduled rehearsals
  - Demonstrate the ability to recognize conducting patterns for two, three, and four beat patterns (SOL – CB.6, CI.6, CAD.6, CAR.6)
  - Demonstrate the ability to mark the score as indicated by the director

#### PERFORMING SKILLS

- 4.14 Demonstrate appropriate ensemble performing skills (SOL CB.13, CI.13, CAD.13, CAR.13)
  - Demonstrate the ability to function as an integral member of the choral ensemble (SOL – CB.13, CI.13, CAD.13, CAR.13)
  - Demonstrate ensemble balance and blend appropriate to the music (SOL – CI.4, CAD.4)
  - Perform in a style appropriate to the music (SOL – CI.14)
- 4.15 Demonstrate appropriate concert skills (SOL CB.13, CI.13, CAD.13, CAR.13)
  - Demonstrate appropriate stage and audience behavior (SOL – CB.13, CI.13, CAD.13, CAR.13)
  - Demonstrate the ability to maintain an appropriate level of focus and energy (SOL CB.13, CI.13, CAD.13, CAR.13)
  - Attend all concerts in required attire (SOL CB.13, CI.13, CAD.13, CAR.13)
  - Attend all required performances (SOL CB.13, CI.13, CAD.13, CAR.13)
- 4.16 The student will evaluate musical performances (SOL CI.11)
  - Formulate questions related to criteria for self-evaluation of vocal/choral performances
  - Evaluate individual and group performances

#### **LITERATURE**

4.17 Demonstrate the ability to perform and identify a variety of styles (SOL – CB.14, CI.14, CAD.15, CAR.15)

- Perform and identify at least three styles such as Renaissance, Baroque, Classical, Romantic, 20th Century, folk song, spiritual, jazz, musical theater, barbershop, popular, patriotic, and multicultural (SOL CB.14, CI.14)
- 4.18 Demonstrate the ability to sing in harmony (SOL CI.5)
  - Demonstrate the ability to sing in three parts (SOL – CI.5)
  - Demonstrate ability to sing independently an individual part (SOL – CI.5, CAD.5, CAD.7)
- 4.19 Demonstrate the ability to sing in a foreign language (SOL CAD.15)
  - Demonstrate the ability to sing in a language other than English (SOL CAD.15)
- 4.20 The student will study and perform selections representing diverse historical periods, styles, and cultures (SOL CI.14)
  - Describe distinguishing characteristics of representative vocal/choral music from a variety of cultures (SOL – CI.10)
  - Compare and contrast the functions of vocal/choral music in various cultures
  - Associate an exemplary vocal/choral work with its historical period, composer, and title

#### **IMPROVISATION**

- 4.21 The student will respond to music through movement (SOL CI.7)
  - Create movement for diverse styles of music
  - Design body percussion for rhythm studies
- 4.22 The student will create through composing and improvising (SOL CI.8)
  - Improvise rhythmic and melodic phrases
  - Create harmony to a given melody
  - Use available multimedia applications and technology

#### INTERDISCIPLINARY

- 4.23 The student will study the relationship of music to the arts and disciplines outside the arts (SOL CI.12)
  - Examine characteristics of various arts from a particular historical period and from various cultures using common elements and characteristic terms
  - Explore careers in music as related to the other fine and performing arts
- 4.24 The student will study the relationship of music to non-arts disciplines

#### LEVEL E

#### THEORY

- 5.1 Demonstrate an awareness of rhythmic and metric rhythm
  - Count, perform, and write dotted eighth notes and rests (SOL CI.9)
  - Define and perform complex rhythms (SOL CAR.8)
  - Identify and perform changing meter (SOL CAD.6)
  - Count and perform 5/4 meter (SOL CAD.8)
- 5.2 Demonstrate an awareness of scales
  - Construct C, F, and G major scales (SOL CAD.8)
  - Identify and define a triad (SOL CAD.8)
- 5.3 Demonstrate an awareness of key signatures
  - Identify the key signatures for C, F, and G majors (SOL – CAD.8)
- 5.4 Demonstrate a knowledge of music notation
  - Identify and define double sharps and flats (SOL – CAD.8)
  - Label the pitches on the grand staff from C to b?? (SOL – CAD.8)
  - Define and demonstrate a knowledge of dynamic markings found in literature of the level (SOL – CB.4)
  - Identify melodic and harmonic intervals of fourths, fifths, sixths, and sevenths (SOL – CAD.8)
  - Identify a minor third
  - Utilize available technology (SOL CAD.8)
- 5.5 Demonstrate a knowledge of form
  - Identify, define, and perform rondo form (ABACA)

### SIGHT-SINGING/EAR-TRAINING

- 5.6 Demonstrate an awareness of the correlation of the written notation to the sounded pitch and rhythm
  - Sight-sing diatonic intervals of a third, fourth, fifth, and octave on treble and bass clef (SOL – CAD.8)
  - Sight-sing diatonic melodies in duple and triple meters (SOL CAD.8)
  - Sight-sing in two parts
  - Sight-sing diatonic melodies employing dotted quarter and eighth notes and rests (SOL – CAD.8)
- 5.7 Demonstrate an aural awareness of melodic
  - Aurally identify ascending melodic diatonic intervals of a third, fourth, fifth, and octave

#### VOCAL PRODUCTION

- 5.8 Demonstrate an awareness of proper posture (SOL CB.1, CI.1, CAD.1, CAR.1)
  - Demonstrate proper sitting and standing positions (SOL – CB.1, CI.1, CAD.1, CAR.1)

- Demonstrate the ability to hold the music correctly while singing (SOL – CB.1, CI.1, CAD.1, CAR.1)
- Demonstrate an awareness of proper body alignment in both sitting and standing positions (SOL – CB.1, CI.1, CAD.1, CAR.1)
- 5.9 Demonstrate the ability to use appropriate diction (SOL CB.3, CI.3, CAD.3, CAR.3, CAR.1)
  - Demonstrate appropriate pronunciation of consonants (SOL – CB.3, CI.3, CAD.3, CAR.3, CAR.1)
  - Demonstrate appropriate vowel formation and pronunciation (SOL – CB.3, CI.3, CAD.3, CAR.3, CAR.1)
  - Demonstrate appropriate pronunciation of diphthongs (SOL – CB.3, CI.3, CAD.3, CAR.3, CAR.1)
  - Demonstrate the ability to use voiced and un-voiced consonants appropriate to the music (SOL – CB.3, CI.3, CAD.3, CAR.3, CAR.1)
  - Demonstrate correct pronunciation appropriate to the music (SOL – CB.3, CI.3, CAD.3, CAR.3, CAR.1)
- 5.10 Demonstrate proper breathing technique (SOL CB.1, CI.1, CAD.1, CAR.1)
  - Demonstrate an awareness of the proper usage of the total breathing apparatus (SOL CB.1, CI.1, CAD.1, CAR.1)
  - Identify the mouth, nose, throat, larynx, lungs, rib cage, and diaphragm (SOL – CB.1, CI.1)
  - Define and perform staggered breathing (SOL – CB.1, CI.1)
  - Demonstrate the ability to use phrasing as indicated by the director (SOL – CAD.4, CAR.1, CI.6)
- 5.11 Demonstrate an awareness of tonal placement (SOL CB.2, CI.2, CAD.2, CAR.2)
  - Demonstrate the ability to use head tones and chest tones (SOL – CB.2, CI.2, CAD.2, CAR.1)
  - Demonstrate correct intonation (SOL CB.2, CI.2, CAD.2, CAR.2, CAR.1)
  - Identify falsetto (SOL CB.2, CI.2, CAD.2, CAR.1)
  - Demonstrate an awareness of resonators and larynx (SOL CB.2, CI.2, CAD.1)
  - Demonstrate the use of vowel placement to adjust tone (SOL – CAD.3)

#### REHEARSAL SKILLS

- 5.12 Demonstrate appropriate rehearsal skills
  - Bring appropriate materials to rehearsal
  - Demonstrate the proper use and care of classroom materials
  - Demonstrate appropriate behavior

- Attend regularly scheduled rehearsals
- Demonstrate the ability to recognize conducting patterns for two, three, and four beat patterns (SOL – CB.6, CI.6, CAD.6, CAR.6)
- Demonstrate the ability to recognize simple, compound, and complex conducting patterns (SOL – CI.6, CAD.6, CAR.6)

#### PERFORMING SKILLS

- 5.13 Demonstrate appropriate ensemble performing skills
  - Demonstrate the ability to function as an integral member of the ensemble (SOL CB.13, CI.13, CAD.13, CAR.13)
  - Demonstrate ensemble balance and blend appropriate to the music (SOL – CI.4, CAD.4)
  - Perform in a style appropriate to the music (SOL – CI.14, CAD.4)
- 5.14 Demonstrate appropriate concert skills (SOL CB.13, CI.13, CAR.13, CAD.13)
  - Demonstrate appropriate stage and audience behavior (SOL – CB.13, CI.13, CAR.13, CAD.13)
  - Demonstrate the ability to maintain an appropriate level of focus and energy (SOL - CB.13, CI.13, CAR.13, CAD.13, CAD.4)
  - Attend all concerts in required attire (SOL CB.13, CI.13, CAR.13, CAD.13)
  - Attend all required performances (SOL CB.13, CI.13, CAR.13, CAD.13)
- 5.15 Demonstrate the ability to participate in educationally beneficial extra-curricular activities
  - Participate in district and city music activities
  - Participate in community music activities (SOL CAD.16, CAR.16)
  - Participate in competitions and festivals selected by the director
- 5.16 The student will evaluate musical performances (SOL CAD.14)
  - Evaluate and offer constructive suggestions for improvement of personal and group performances
  - Articulate musical preferences through the use of music terminology
- 5.17 The student will demonstrate the ability to sing independently (SOL CAD.7)
  - Demonstrate audition skills
  - Demonstrate memorization skills
  - Perform a song and/or an individual vocal part alone
- 5.18 The student will demonstrate leadership ability in the vocal/choral setting (SOL CAD.13)
  - Demonstrate the ability to fulfill leadership roles including one or more of the following:

- section leader, officer, accompanist, peer mentor
- Exhibit concert etiquette during performances in a variety of settings

#### **LITERATURE**

- 5.19 Demonstrate the ability to perform and identify a variety of styles
  - Perform and identify at least five styles such as Renaissance, Baroque, Classical, Romantic, 20th Century, folk song, spiritual, jazz, musical, theater, barbershop, popular, patriotic, and multicultural (SOL – CB.14, CI.14, CAD.15, CAR.15)
- 5.20 Demonstrate the ability to sing in harmony
  - Demonstrate the ability to sing in four parts (SOL CI.5, CAD.5, CAR.5)
  - Demonstrate the ability to sing independently an individual part (SOL – CL5, CAD.5, CAD.7)
  - Demonstrate the ability to perform music with traditional and non-traditional harmonies (SOL – CAD.5)
- 5.21 Demonstrate the ability to sing in a foreign language
  - Demonstrate the ability to sing in a language other than English (SOL – CAD.15, CAR.15)
- 5.22 The student will study and sing selections representing various historical periods, styles, and cultures, including music of the twentieth century (SOL CAD.15)
  - Sing selections in a variety of foreign languages
- 5.23 The student will identify various compositional methods in the music being studied including fugue, word painting, modulation, and aleatory music (SOL CAD.11)

# **IMPROVISATION**

- 5.24 The student will read and write notation (SOL CAD.8)
  - Use a symbol system to sight-read melodic line in major keys
  - Read and write rhythmic and melodic notation
  - Sight-read individual voice part in a vocal score
  - Use available technology
- 5.25 The student will respond to music through movement (SOL CAD.9)
  - Create movement for diverse styles of music
- 5.26 The student will create through composing, improvising, and arranging (SOL CAD.10)
  - Create harmonies to a given melody
  - Improvise, vocally, a simple melody
  - Create arrangements of known melodies

• Use available multimedia applications and technology

#### **INERDISCIPLINARY**

- 5.27 The student will demonstrate an understanding between the relationship of music to other arts and disciplines outside the arts (SOL CAD.12)
  - Find and describe the correlation between vocal/choral music and other disciplines taught in school.
  - Explore careers in music as related to other fine and performing arts
- 5.28 The student will demonstrate the ability to make informed decisions as a consumer of music (SOL CAD.16)
  - Identify opportunities to participate in vocal/choral ensembles in the community

 Demonstrate knowledge of opportunities for attendance at professional and community concerts



#### **Mission Statement**

The Virginia Beach City Public Schools, in partnership with the entire community, will empower every student to become a life-long learner who is a responsible, productive and engaged citizen within the global community.

Dr. James G. Merrill, Superintendent

# DEPARTMENT OF CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION 2512 George Mason Drive • P. O. Box 6038 • Virginia Beach, Virginia 23456-0038

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